

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

At page 1, please amend the last paragraph thereon which beings at line 13 as follows:

— A proven method of preventing corrosion in down hole applications is to line the pipe with glass reinforced epoxy (GRE), or fiberglass liners. ~~Such lines~~ Segments of down hole pipe are coupled together with threaded connections. Nevertheless, pipe segments lined with fiberglass for pipeline use must be welded end to end to form the pipeline. Specialized welding techniques have been required to weld fiberglass lined segments together.—

At page 7, please amend the first paragraph beginning at line 1 as follows:

— The dimensions of the weld shield device 10 are designed to allow the weld shield device 10 to act as a spacer. When pipe segment 100A and pipe segment 100B are coupled to the weld shield device 10, a weld gap 230 of a predetermined length 17 exists. The weld gap 230 is primarily created via the relationship between the sleeve body 20 and the cutout portion of fiberglass liners (120A, 120B). That is, when the groove 40 contacts the fiberglass liners (120A, 120B) at a mating surface 122, the contact of the liners in the groove 40 prevents the pipe segments (100A, 100B) from moving any closer together to one another. In the embodiment of Figure 1, the length 15 of the sleeve body 20 is approximately the same size as cutout portion length 125 of fiberglass liner 120A, cutout portion length 125 of fiberglass liner 120B, and predetermined length 17 of weld gap 230. The mating of the long necks 60 with the ends of adhesive material (110A, 110B) at mating surface 112 can, also aid in creating the weld gap 230. The length 11 of the outer side 80 of the weld shield device 10 ~~being~~ is approximately the same length as the sum of cutout portion length 115 of adhesive material 110A, ~~and~~ cutout portion length 115 of adhesive material 110B, and predetermined length 17 of weld gap 230.—

At page 8, please amend the last paragraph beginning at line 20 as follows:

— Figures 3 and 4 illustrates a second embodiment of the invention showing a similar arrangement to that of Figure 1, but with the weld shield device 10' in an alternative configuration and with a correspondingly different preparation of pipe segments (100A, 100B).—